

Application No. 10/825,046
Preliminary Amendment Dated March 1, 2005
No Office Action Yet issued

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

[0001] The present invention relates to a sterile tubing sheath as **part of a** sterilized barrier apparatus and to a method of ~~sterilizing~~ forming a sterilized barrier for an aspiration tube used with a surgical handpiece in ocular surgery procedures.

DISCUSSION OF RELATED ART

~~Brief summary of the invention~~

[0002] During various types of surgical procedures, one or more sterile, hollow tubings may be used to transport fluid to the eye and to transport fluid, tissue, blood, etc. from the eye. Such surgical procedures are exemplified by certain ocular procedures such as cataract removal and vitrectomy operations.

~~DISCUSSION OF RELATED ART~~

[0006] It would be desirable to re-use the surgical packs safely for operations involving different patients without introducing a risk of contamination to any of the patients.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0007] One aspect of the invention resides in a sterilized barrier and method of forming a sterilized barrier for an aspiration tubing and an irrigation (infusion) tubing to a surgical handpiece.